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**MAYOR RAHM EMANUEL, CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT ANNOUNCE IMPROVEMENTS TO
TENNIS COURTS AND TRACK AT RIIS PARK**

Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Chicago Park District Superintendent Michael P. Kelly and Alderman Ariel Reboyras (30th) today announced plans for significant improvements to the tennis courts and track at Riis Park, 6100 West Fullerton Avenue. Upgrades will include a rehabilitation of the tennis courts and replacing the current cinder track with a new asphalt running track.

"Investments like these are critical to the development of strong neighborhoods," Mayor Emanuel said. "Maintaining our parks, libraries and other community anchors strengthen the foundation for a thriving Chicago."

In addition to summer tennis camp, the 10 tennis courts at Riis Park are also home to Special Olympics Tennis that serves more than 200 participants citywide in competitive matches.

"The Chicago Park District constantly strives to maintain its parks and facilities and offer opportunities for safe and accessible recreation for children and families to enjoy," said Superintendent and CEO Michael P. Kelly. "The Mayor's continued support and investment in our parks allows us to improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods, and provide access to high quality recreational experiences."

Construction is slated to begin by year's end and is expected to be complete in summer 2018.

"I am pleased that these improvements are coming to Riis Park and the 30th ward," Alderman Reboyras said. "The Riis Park Striders, Special Olympic Tennis athletes and members of the community will make great use of the updated facilities."

Riis Park is a notable green space in the Belmont Cragin community that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

-30-

The Chicago Park District is the 2014 Gold Medal Award winner, recognized for excellence in park and recreation management across the nation. For more information about the Chicago Park District's more than 8,300 acres of parkland, more than 585 parks, 26 miles of lakefront, 12 museums, two world-class

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conservatories, 16 historic lagoons, nearly 50 nature areas, thousands of special events, sports and entertaining programs, please visit www.chicagoparkdistrict.com or contact the Chicago Park District at 312/742.PLAY or 312/747.2001 (TTY). Want to share your talent? Volunteer in the parks by calling, 312/742.PLAY.